

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 15 with the following new paragraph:

[0003] The base plate ~~consists of~~ is formed of an aluminum alloy, ~~of which~~ and the flat pipes, the corrugated ribs and the lateral component parts as well as the remaining elements of the heat exchanger ~~also consist~~ are also formed of this material. It is stamped initially from a plate, which is then formed in such a way that a flat base (essentially a flat collecting tank part) is formed, to the longitudinal edges of which bent component parts (tunnel-shaped collecting tank parts) are attached. The bent component parts are bent to the radius of a cylindrical surface, from which the longitudinal edges are folded in such a way that they lie adjacent to and are parallel to one another and are oriented essentially perpendicularly to the base. The longitudinal edges are provided with a number of brackets arranged distributed over their length, which are inserted through slots in the base and are secured on the outside facing towards the flat pipes. A collecting tank with two chambers, which exhibits relatively high strength, is formed in this way before soldering takes place. The base plate is solder plated or provided with a solder coating.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 1, with the following new paragraph:

[0050] The covers 6 ~~consisting of~~ are formed from a metal sheet and are attached to

the collecting tank 2 from the front side, in conjunction with which they are introduced as far as stops 10 formed by stop abutments, which are formed on the base plate by means of embossing and are locked in position by means of brackets 11 stamped during manufacture of the base plate and bent over after positioning of the cover 6. To permit the easier introduction of the covers 6, insertion tapers are provided on the base plate (see the phase passing over about half of the thickness of the base plate in FIG. 9). Both the brackets 11 and the stops 10 in the tunnel-shaped collecting tank part 5 are present in the longitudinal direction of the collecting tank 2 viewed at the same height in each case. According to the present illustrative embodiment, only one stop 10 and two brackets 11 offset in relation to it are provided for each cover 6 in the flat collecting tank part 4, although according to a variant not represented in the drawing, an arrangement corresponding to the tunnel-shaped collecting tank part 5 is also possible. The brackets 11 are separated from one another by the stops 10 viewed in the longitudinal direction of the collecting tank 2 by the thickness of the sheet metal forming the cover 6, so that exact positioning is possible as a result of a positive-fit connection before soldering.